

**Final Examination – Coordinating Environmental and Historic Preservation
Compliance for Field Personnel (IS-253)
(Total of 33 questions)**

1. Which of the following statements about disaster operations and environmental/historic preservation review is correct?
 - A. All environmental/historic preservation compliance activities take place after the scoping process is complete.
 - B. Environmental/historic preservation review must be considered in all of FEMA's activities.
 - C. The identification of environmental/historic preservation issues cannot begin until a disaster has been declared.
 - D. Environmental/historic preservation review often does not apply to projects funded under either the Individual Assistance or the Public Assistance program.

2. Which of the following statements about FEMA programs is correct?
 - A. The only program completely exempt from environmental/historic preservation review is Individual Assistance.
 - B. In the Public Assistance program, FEMA holds Applicants' Briefings to focus on environmental/historic preservation issues.
 - C. FEMA makes the final environmental/historic preservation determination of compliance for projects funded under the Public Assistance and hazard mitigation programs.
 - D. For small projects funded under the Public Assistance program, the State determines Federal compliance for basic environmental/historic preservation issues.

3. What is typically the first thing that occurs after the President issues a disaster declaration?
 - A. Environmental and historic preservation specialists begin conducting project-specific reviews.
 - B. The Environmental Liaison Officer holds a scoping meeting to discuss environmental/historic preservation review procedures for the disaster.
 - C. FEMA and State program officers develop a plan for public involvement.
 - D. FEMA establishes a disaster field office to assist in the response and recovery effort.

4. If approved by FEMA, Public Assistance funding may be used for alternate projects. Which of the following would be considered an alternate project?
 - A. Repairs made to an eligible damaged public facility.
 - B. Rental assistance provided to a household.
 - C. Construction of a new facility not related in function to the eligible damaged facility.
 - D. Improvements made to an eligible damaged facility that do not change the function of the facility.

5. Which FEMA position works in coordination with the Public assistance and mitigation programs to ensure the completion of environmental and/or historic preservation review?
 - A. Public Assistance Officer (PAO)
 - B. Specialist (Environmental or Historic Preservation)
 - C. Hazard Mitigation Officer
 - D. Special Considerations Liaison (SCL)

6. Which of the following statements about FEMA's hazard mitigation programs is correct?
 - A. Some hazard mitigation funding is provided in the form of nationally competitive grants.
 - B. FEMA is responsible for the independent formulation of project scope, design, and application.
 - C. Tribes/States do not have an active role in managing hazard mitigation programs.
 - D. Approved projects are designed to provide short-term solutions to immediate problems.

7. The Hazard Mitigation Officer is responsible for:
 - A. Coordinating and preparing review documentation.
 - B. Conducting program eligibility and environmental reviews.
 - C. Working with specialists to complete environmental/historic preservation reviews.
 - D. Managing the program in coordination with Tribe/State counterparts.

8. Of the activities listed below, which would trigger the more intensive level of environmental/historic preservation review?
- A. Provisioning emergency supplies of potable water.
 - B. Realigning and repairing a storm-damaged stream.
 - C. Reimbursement for police overtime.
 - D. Temporary repairs made to a damaged public facility.
9. Of the activities listed below, which is the most likely to encounter environmental or historic preservation issues?
- A. Floodproofing a recently constructed public facility.
 - B. Making minimal repairs made to private residences.
 - C. Preparing a site for a group of 30 temporary housing units.
 - D. Repairing a washed-out neighborhood street.
10. Which of the following parties is ultimately responsible for ensuring that environmental/historic preservation review is conducted according to the law for FEMA projects?
- A. Applicant
 - B. Tribe/State
 - C. State resource agencies
 - D. FEMA
11. Which of the following statements about the NEPA planning process is correct?
- The NEPA planning process:
- A. Must be completed before any work is initiated.
 - B. Mandates that the least expensive alternative be selected.
 - C. Applies to everyone, not just Federal agencies.
 - D. Is optional if State-level guidelines are more stringent.

12. Which of the following FEMA-funded activities is most likely eligible for STATEX?
- A. Installation of utilities for a new temporary group housing site.
 - B. Replacement of flood-damaged emergency generators in the county hospital.
 - C. Relocation of phone lines and existing utility poles to a new location out of a flood plain.
 - D. Physical relocation of a structure where FEMA has no involvement in the site development.
13. Which of the following FEMA-funded CATEX activities is most likely subject to require the most documentation and review?
- A. Preparation of a study on the effects of mold in flooded structures.
 - B. Routine maintenance, repair, and groundskeeping of FEMA facilities.
 - C. Inspection and monitoring activities to enforce regulations.
 - D. Acquisition of properties and associated demolition.
14. Which of the following statements on environmental assessments (EA) and environmental impact statements (EIS) is correct?
- A. If an EIS concludes with a Record of Decision, then an EA is required.
 - B. When an EA results in a FONSI, no EIS is required.
 - C. While recommended, public involvement is optional for both an EA and an EIS.
 - D. The Purpose and Need section of an EA or an EIS describes the proposed action.
15. For proposed work around the Nation's waters, under the Clean Water Act, a FEMA applicant must:
- A. Obtain and comply with Section 401 and Section 404 permits.
 - B. Conduct an Individual 404 permit review for projects with minimal impact to the environment.
 - C. Obtain a State permit if the State requirements are stricter than Federal regulations.
 - D. Refrain from any dredge and fill operations.

16. Which of the following statements about the Clean Water Act (CWA) is correct?
- A. Under Section 404 of the CWA, States may issue permits for discharge of dredged or fill material into waterways.
 - B. Under the CWA, the Army Corps of Engineers issues permits to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waterways.
 - C. The jurisdiction of the CWA is limited to the Nation's rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds.
 - D. Under the CWA permitting process, applicants may comply with either State or Federal regulations.
17. Which of the following statements on the eight-step process for Executive Order 11988 and Executive Order 11990 is correct?
- A. If a proposed project is found under the eight-step process to have no impact on wetlands or floodplains, then NEPA review is not necessary.
 - B. If a proposed project is within a 100-mile radius of a floodplain or a wetland, it must be reviewed under the eight-step process.
 - C. If the eight-step review process identifies a reasonable alternative outside the floodplain or wetland, FEMA cannot locate the project in a floodplain or wetland.
 - D. Projects funded by State, local, and private entities that are proposed in any floodplain or wetland must be reviewed under the eight-step process.
18. Under the eight-step process for floodplains and wetlands, applicants must first:
- A. Assess the proposed project's impact on wetlands or floodplains.
 - B. Prove that the proposed location is the best location for the project.
 - C. Encourage public involvement in the review process.
 - D. Determine the project's location.
19. Which of the following statements about the Endangered Species Act (ESA) is correct?
- A. Federal agencies may "take" a certain limited number of a listed species annually.
 - B. ESA applies only to Federal agencies; there are no requirements for individuals, States, and local agencies.
 - C. Federal agencies are prohibited from taking any action in a critical habitat area.
 - D. Federal agencies must determine if a proposed action may affect a listed species or critical habitat.

20. Under the Endangered Species Act, before taking action that is likely to adversely affect the natural environment, FEMA must first:
- A. Determine if more restrictive State endangered species regulations override Federal requirements.
 - B. Consult with the Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service.
 - C. Contact the Army Corps of Engineers to determine if waterways will be affected.
 - D. Determine if the action is emergency in nature and, therefore, exempt from compliance.
21. Which of the following statements about the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) is correct?
- A. Although debris removal funded under Section 403 is STATEX, it is still subject to CAA and RCRA compliance.
 - B. FEMA is responsible for establishing the air quality standards and recycling standards that the applicant must meet for all FEMA-funded projects.
 - C. Under CAA and RCRA, structures with potentially hazardous material, such as lead or asbestos, may not be demolished.
 - D. Emergency actions, such as debris removal and burning, are exempt from compliance with CAA and RCRA.
22. To comply with Executive Order 12898 Environmental Justice, FEMA and other Federal agencies must ensure that their proposed actions:
- A. Are evaluated for disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations.
 - B. Are subject to public hearings to establish if minorities or low-income populations are present in the area.
 - C. Avoid areas where there are low-income or minority populations.
 - D. Must have a disproportionately beneficial effect on minority or low-income populations.

23. Under the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), if FEMA determines a proposed action will be in a coastal zone, then FEMA must:
- A. Relocate the project out of the coastal zone.
 - B. Develop mitigation measures to offset any loss of coastal resources.
 - C. Review the State CZMA plan for project consistency.
 - D. Apply for a waiver from the Army Corps of Engineers.
24. Which of the following statements about the definition of a historic property under the National Historic Preservation Act is correct?
- A. Business districts, college campuses, and residential areas are all examples of historic districts.
 - B. A Native American property that currently serves as a ceremonial site is an example of a structure.
 - C. Historic objects include monuments, sculptures, documents, and museum collections.
 - D. A vernacular building is one that is associated with the cultural or religious beliefs of a living community.
25. Under the National Historic Preservation Act, FEMA is required to:
- A. Provide all resources necessary to preserve historic properties.
 - B. Consult with the Advisory Council for all actions involving historic properties.
 - C. Take into account the effects of undertakings on historic properties.
 - D. Complete the four-step review process before commencing National Environmental Policy Act review.

26. While all of Atlantic County suffered heavy damage from a recent hurricane, the historic district of Charlestown was hit especially hard. A week after the disaster declaration, interested parties agree that one of the historic buildings is in danger of collapse and must be demolished.

Which of the following statements about this undertaking and Section 106 review are correct?

- A. The undertaking is exempt from review, as demolition, rescue, and salvage operations are excluded from Section 106 review.
 - B. If the county had a Programmatic Agreement in place, the review period for this undertaking would be 15 days.
 - C. Under standard Section 106, the review period for this undertaking, as an emergency action, would be 7 days.
 - D. Because this project is ineligible for consideration as an emergency undertaking, the 30-day review timeframe in the standard Section 106 review process applies.
27. According to 36 CFR Part 800, if an emergency situation exists involving potential adverse effects to a historic property, and no Programmatic Agreement has been executed, who must FEMA seek comment from before proceeding with the action?
- A. SHPO and the Advisory Council
 - B. State Emergency Management Agency
 - C. Keeper of the National Register
 - D. Secretary of the Interior
28. The term Area of Potential Effect (APE) may be defined as:
- A. A 2-mile radius around the project site for any project that may change the use or character of historic properties.
 - B. The human and natural environment affected by a project, including short-term and long-term effects.
 - C. The geographic area around a project where the character or use of historic properties may be changed as a result of the project.
 - D. The interior and exterior of that historic property, for any project that involves the interior of a historic property.

29. Which of the following statements about FEMA projects and historic properties is correct?
- A. The Public Assistance Officer identifies and evaluates the National Register eligibility of historic properties for Public Assistance projects.
 - B. FEMA must seek concurrence from the SHPO/THPO if a determination is made that a proposed project affects historic properties.
 - C. The applicant is responsible for determining if historic properties are affected by a proposed project.
 - D. The SHPO/THPO must inform the Advisory Council if a proposed project is found to have no adverse effects on historic properties.

30. Due to significant damage from wildfires, a county in Arizona was declared eligible for FEMA assistance. An archaeological site listed on the National Register of Historic Places is in the declared county.

Which of the following statements would be considered an adverse effect under Section 106 criteria?

- A. Use of the area encompassing the site as a debris staging area.
 - B. Renovation of a museum exhibit on site artifacts.
 - C. Collapse of a structure at the site due to extensive fire damage.
 - D. Loss of revenue from tourists visiting the site.
31. If an undertaking will cause an adverse effect to a National Historic Landmark, then FEMA must:
- A. Give the SHPO/THPO 30 days to suggest alternative projects.
 - B. Request a waiver from Section 106 compliance.
 - C. Hold a public meeting to discuss treatment measures.
 - D. Notify the Advisory Council and the Secretary of the Interior.

32. Due to repeated flooding, the owners of 10 historic properties in a riverside neighborhood are participating in a mitigation buy-out project. The affected properties are slated to be demolished, relocated or elevated depending on their location and condition. For the historic properties that will be adversely affected by the project, FEMA and the consulting parties will develop treatment measures.

Which of the following statements about treatment measures for these historic properties is correct?

- A. Treatment measures for the affected properties must be developed by the SHPO/THPO.
- B. A treatment measure for a property slated for demolition could include the development of a local exhibit about the neighborhood's history and related historic properties.
- C. Treatment measures are not required if a public meeting is held to explain the selection process for demolition, relocation, or elevation.
- D. Treatment measures must directly benefit the affected historic properties, regardless of the specific measure chosen.

33. A recent earthquake has caused significant damage in a west coast county. In one town, the central historic district of 125 buildings was heavily damaged. After consultation, FEMA determined that it was not feasible to repair most of the properties, and they should be demolished.

Which of the following documents would be the most appropriate to address treatment measures for these historic properties?

- A. Memorandum of Agreement
- B. Project Worksheet
- C. FEMA-State Agreement
- D. Project-Specific Programmatic Agreement